

Juniper, OR, and UP milepost 218.0 at Wallula Heights, WA; and (2) UP milepost 0.0 at Wallula, WA, and UP milepost 2.0 near Attilia, WA, a total distance of 10 miles. BMR will be permitted to provide local switching service only to Boise Cascade Corporation, Ponderosa Fibers, and WATCO, Inc., at Wallula, WA.

The transaction is expected to be consummated on or shortly after January 15, 1998, the effective date of the exemption.

As a condition to this exemption, any employees affected by the trackage rights will be protected by the conditions imposed in *Norfolk and Western Ry. Co.—Trackage Rights—BN*, 354 I.C.C. 605 (1978), as modified in *Mendocino Coast Ry., Inc.—Lease and Operate*, 360 I.C.C. 653 (1980).

This notice is filed under 49 CFR 1180.2(d)(7). If the notice contains false or misleading information, the exemption is void *ab initio*. Petitions to revoke the exemption under 49 U.S.C. 10502(d) may be filed at any time. The filing of a petition to revoke will not automatically stay the transaction.

An original and 10 copies of all pleadings, referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33540, must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001. In addition, a copy of each pleading must be served on: Karl Morell, Ball Janik LLP, Suite 225, 1455 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005.

Decided: January 15, 1998.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.

Vernon A. Williams,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-1638 Filed 1-22-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Finance Docket No. 33474]

#### Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd.—Lease and Operation Exemption—Union Pacific Railroad Company

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice of Exemption.

**SUMMARY:** Under 49 U.S.C. 10502, the Board exempts from the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 10902 the lease by Iowa Interstate Railroad, Ltd. (IAIS) and operation of 6.4 miles of railroad owned by Union Pacific Railroad Company between milepost 358.568 at Des Moines, IA, and milepost 365.0 at West

Des Moines, IA, in Polk County, IA, subject to labor protective conditions.

**DATES:** The exemption will be effective 60 days after IAIS certifies to the Board that it has posted at the workplace of the employees on the affected line, and served on the national offices of the labor unions with employees on the affected line, a notice of the transaction, setting forth the types and numbers of jobs expected to be available, the terms of employment and principles of employee selection, and the line that is to be leased. Petitions to stay must be filed by February 23, 1998. Petitions to reopen must be filed by March 16, 1998.<sup>1</sup>

**ADDRESSES:** An original and 10 copies of all pleadings referring to STB Finance Docket No. 33474 must be filed with the Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20423-0001; in addition, a copy of all pleadings must be served on petitioner's representative: T. Scott Bannister, 1300 Des Moines Building, 405-6th Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joseph H. Dettmar (202) 565-1600. [TDD for the hearing impaired (202) 565-1695.]

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Additional information is contained in the Board's decision. To purchase a copy of the full decision, write to, call or pick up in person from: DC NEWS & DATA, INC., 1925 K Street, N.W., Suite 210, Washington, DC 20006. Telephone: (202) 289-4357. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through TDD services (202) 565-1695.]

Decided: January 12, 1998.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-1637 Filed 1-22-98; 8:45 am]

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## UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: United States Information Agency.

**ACTION:** Submission for OMB Review; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), this notice announces that the following information collection activity has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. USIA is requesting approval of an information collection entitled "Applications for Administrative and Teaching Exchanges/Seminars Abroad" under OMB control number 3116-0181 which is scheduled to expire on February 28, 1998. This request for comment is being made pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

The information collection activity involved with the program is conducted pursuant to the mandate given to the United States Information Agency under the terms and conditions of the Mutual and Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, P.L. 87-256.

**DATES:** Comments are due on or before February 23, 1998.

**COPIES:** Copies of the Request for Clearance (OMB 83-I), supporting statement, and other documents that have been submitted to OMB for approval may be obtained from the USIA Clearance Officer. Comments should be submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for USIA, and also to the USIA Clearance Officer.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Agency Clearance Officer, Ms. Jeannette Giovetti, United States Information Agency, M/AOL, 301 Fourth Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547, telephone (202) 619-4408, internet address JGiovett@USIA.GOV; and OMB review: Ms. Victoria Wassmer, Officer of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, New Executive Office Building, Docket Library, Room 1002, NEOB, Washington, D.C. 20503, Telephone (202) 395-5871.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on November 25, 1997 (vol. 62, no. 227). Public reporting burden for this collection of information (Paper Work Reduction Project: OMB No. 3116-0181) is estimated to average two (2) hours per response. Responses are voluntary and

<sup>1</sup> The due dates for petitions for stay and reopening presuppose that IAIS will promptly certify that the required notice to employees has been given, and that the employees therefore have a reasonable period of time in which to file any petition. Should IAIS be delayed for a significant period of time in making that certification, we will entertain requests to extend the period of time for filing petitions to stay or reopen.